



EPA Talks to Residents

Lammers Barrel Factory Site
Beavercreek, Ohio

September 2002

We want to hear from you!

Your input to the community involvement plan for the Lammers Barrel site is important. Your thoughts are valuable in helping EPA develop a community involvement plan that is responsive to the community's needs.

The following questions are a guideline to use in your response. What concerns do you have about the contamination at the Lammers Barrel site? What concerns do you have about the cleanup of the site? How can EPA best provide you with information concerning the cleanup? Is there anything else you want to tell us?

Your response can be e-mailed, faxed, mailed or phoned to Bri Bill, EPA community involvement coordinator, using the information on the back. Please respond by Oct. 2.

About a dozen Beavercreek area residents and officials met one-on-one with representatives of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Ohio EPA in late July and early August. The meetings were held with those who responded to EPA's July 15 invitation. Participants were provided a site update, asked for feedback on EPA's past communication effort with the community, and invited to share concerns and issues related to the cleanup.

EPA will use the information to update the 1998 community involvement plan for the Lammers Barrel site. This plan is simply a site-specific communication strategy that lays out how the agency will communicate site progress and involve the public.

Commonly asked questions

EPA and Ohio EPA heard similar questions from a number of people. The questions, and the answers, are provided below.

Because contamination has been found in some residential drinking water wells in the Woodhaven subdivision, will EPA extend the county water lines to areas served by residential wells? Not at this time. EPA connected some homes along East Patterson Road (1985) and Rosendale Circle (2000) to newly extended county water lines. These homes were connected because there was contamination in residential wells above federal guidelines. EPA has not found contamination above federal guidelines in other sampled wells. EPA will evaluate the need to extend additional county water lines after completion of the new investigation, expected to begin this fall.

How will I know if my well will be tested as part of the upcoming investigation? EPA, Ohio EPA and the parties EPA who have agreed to conduct the investigation - called potentially responsible parties - are finalizing the list of wells to be sampled. A representative from the parties will contact individual homeowners whose wells are targeted for sampling.



September 1969 fire that destroyed the Lammers Barrel facility. Photo by Don Reed.

I want to get my well water tested. If I am willing to pay for testing, whom do I need to contact? If you are not part of the EPA sampling program and you wish to have your well water tested by a private laboratory, EPA or Ohio EPA can provide you some general guidelines as well as a list of state-certified labs. Please contact any of the individuals listed on the back.

I thought EPA had started the cleanup of the Lammers site in 2000. Why did EPA stop? What will happen next? In 2000, while doing field work needed to design the dual phase vapor extraction system (the cleanup technology selected in 1999 to address contaminated soil), EPA found that contamination was more extensive than early investigations indicated. Importantly, the new data called into question the ability of the extraction system to function properly. EPA decided additional study was needed to define the extent of newly discovered contamination as well as evaluate whether the extraction system could be used or whether a different technology was warranted.

While awaiting additional funding to do this investigation, EPA identified private parties that could be considered responsible for the cleanup under the Superfund law. These parties signed, in April 2002, an agreement to pay for and conduct an investigation, called a remedial investigation, that will expand on earlier studies. This work is expected to start this fall, once EPA has approved a work plan submitted by the parties.

Where is the ground-water contamination headed next? Previous sampling of residential wells and studies of the area's geology tell us that ground water is flowing slowly to the southeast in this area of the city. The fact that EPA found contamination in some wells on East Patterson Road (east of the site) and some wells on the streets to the southeast support this. Questions that EPA needs better answers to include: How deep is the contamination? Is there a continuous mass (or plume) of contamination or are there "pockets" of contamination within a clean flow of ground water? Where are the boundaries of the contamination? To what extent are the chemicals dissolving or dispersing? EPA expects the upcoming investigation will help answer these.

EPA has been studying the site for years. Is this work wasted? The information collected during the remedial investigation will supplement data collected in previous years. For example, the responsible parties will sample residential wells that EPA has never tested. They will also collect on-site soil from depths not sampled before.

Who are the potentially responsible parties paying for the investigation? In April 2002, EPA signed a legal agreement, called an administrative order on consent, requiring 20 parties to further investigate soil and ground-water contamination at the site.

The parties that signed the order are:

- Alcoa Inc. on behalf of Alcoa Building Products Inc. (formerly Stolle Corp.)
- Borden Inc. for Columbus Coated Fabrics
- BP Products North America Inc.
- Chemcentral Corp.
- C.P. Inc.
- Copeland Corp.
- Daimler Chrysler Corp.
- Ford Motor Co.
- General Electric Co.
- General Motors Corp.
- The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. (formerly Goodyear Tire)
- International Truck and Engine Corp. (formerly International Harvester Co.)
- Lamson & Sessions
- United Technologies Corp. on behalf of Lear Corp. Automotive Systems (formerly Sheller-Globe Corp.)
- Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co.
- PPG Industries Inc.
- Arvin Meritor Inc. on behalf of Roll Coater Inc.
- The Sherwin Williams Co. (Lowe/Pratt & Lambert)
- Sunoco Inc. (R&M) (formerly Sun Oil Co.)
- Anthony Kohnen

EPA may pursue additional potentially liable parties in the future.

Residents provide feedback

Residents and city officials provided EPA and Ohio EPA excellent feedback and suggestions for improving communication and public involvement. Here's what you told us:

Communicating information

- Mailings are one of the best ways to keep people updated about the site. Residents commented that EPA's mailers are understandable and provide the right level of detail. Several residents stated that mailers are not always frequent enough, noting that more followup was needed when EPA announced that the vapor extraction system was not going to work.
- House visits are a good way to keep people informed, as they are convenient for the resident and allow discussions about individual wells. (While time and resource constraints make it difficult for EPA to visit individual residences on a routine basis, EPA will try to arrange an appointment at a resident's request or when otherwise necessary.)
- Community meetings are all right but not the best way to share information. Several residents stated they primarily rely on mailers for most information and that EPA should only hold meetings if important information needs to be presented. A couple of residents noted that they had seen the meetings on the city's cable access station.
- Web site or list serve (an e-mail newsletter) would be useful for disseminating information, especially information that changes rapidly such as the schedule for drilling a borehole in a certain street. (Please see EPA's Lammers Web site for site updates and other information: epa.gov/region5/sites/lammers/index.htm.)
- The Dayton Daily News community section is read by many residents and is a good place for articles about the site and advertisements for community meetings.
- Maps are useful tools for depicting sites of ground-water contamination in the Woodhaven subdivision. Several residents requested a map showing the locations and results of the October 2001 sampling. (EPA is developing a map and will mail one out in the near future.)

Community advisory group

Most people were aware that there had been a community advisory group assisting with the residential well issues on Rosendale Circle, but weren't aware of its current status or need for it in the future. (EPA will continue to assess

the level of interest of community in having a community advisory group.)

Information repository

Most residents do not have the time or inclination to review the information in the library. (Although EPA is required by law to maintain the information repository, we will not rely on it as a primary source of information. EPA will continue to post information on the Web site whenever possible.)

Site reuse

Site reuse is not an issue most residents had thought much about. A number expressed they did not want a "big development"; several expressed interest in open land or a park. (Although the property is privately owned, EPA must consider the impact of cleanup goals and plans on potential future use of a site. EPA will work with local officials and residents as cleanup plans are developed.)

Location

The 2-acre site is located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Grange Hall and East Patterson Roads in Beavercreek, Ohio.

Milestones

1954-69	Barrel facility operated
1969	Facility burned down
1985	Chemicals found in residential wells along East Patterson Road
1986	Water lines extended
1986-00	Residential wells monitored
1992	Site investigation began
1997	Engineering evaluation/cost analysis started
1998	Analysis completed
1998	Community advisory group formed
1999	Cleanup plan proposed and approved
2000	Water lines extended to four homes
2000	Design studies began, revealing new contamination
April 2001	Ground-water investigation begins
April 2002	EPA and responsible parties sign legal order to conduct site investigation.

For more information

For more information about the community involvement plan, or any other aspects of the Lammers Barrel Factory site, please contact:

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EPA proposes site for Superfund list

EPA has proposed the Lammers Barrel site in Beavercreek, Ohio, for addition to the National Priorities List of Superfund hazardous waste sites. The list is a national roster of hazardous waste sites that are eligible for investigation and cleanup under the Superfund program. EPA will accept comments on the proposal until November 4, 2002. EPA will consider all comments received before placing the Lammers site on the list. For more information about the proposal or commenting process, see the Federal Register notice at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-WASTE/2002/September/Day-05/f22539.htm>, or contact Bri Bill.

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